

four children: Sarah, Kristin, Caleb, and Jared, and six grandchildren, including one adopted from Uganda.

I want to thank Dr. MacIlvaine for serving as our guest chaplain today.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLINS of Georgia). The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, when the hallmark of "Presidential leadership" becomes the refusal to have a conversation, we all should be concerned.

Our country is facing some very real challenges right now. To name a few:

Government is shut down because the Democrat Senate won't fund operations unless the House allows ObamaCare to be implemented unfairly;

Families in my district will be forced to spend thousands more next year on health insurance because of the President's partisan health care overhaul;

The country is days away from exhausting its \$16.7 trillion debt limit.

These challenges are bigger than any one party, and our solutions must be, too.

Not negotiating when such pivotal matters are at stake is wrong. It betrays years of precedent, and it contradicts the bipartisan reality of divided government.

House Republicans want to reopen government as soon as possible, but we can't shape a fair bipartisan solution when we're the only ones willing to sit down, talk to the other side, and negotiate.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, the Republican mantra of the day is that the President won't negotiate. Give me and the American people a break.

The President sat down with Republicans many times, and I think he tried harder and longer than he should have to reach bipartisan agreements. The cuts they produced hurt my and many other communities.

A popular definition of "insanity" is doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result.

The Biden task force, the Simpson-Bowles, and the Domenici-Rivlin Commissions were bipartisan and produced nothing. I recall the Speaker walking out on one of the talks.

In the temporary CRs, Budget Control Act and lifting the debt ceiling in

the last Congress, Democrats compromised on important programs, and, frankly, there's no place left to cut.

As the President said yesterday, "I don't know why Democrats right now would agree to a format that takes off the table all the things they care about and is confined only to the things the Republicans care about."

To go to the table with a gun to our heads in a decidedly one-sided negotiation would really be insanity.

We need to, as Chaplain Black prayed last week, "stop the madness" and restore sanity in this House. Mr. Speaker, you can do that today by bringing a clean CR for a vote and lifting the debt ceiling so that the United States can pay its debts.

IRAN SANCTIONS

(Mr. HOLDING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, a nuclear-armed Iran is simply unacceptable and would pose a grave national security threat to our Nation and our allies.

Sanctions against the Iranian regime are having an effect on their nation's economy and remain a key tool for U.S. policymakers. Unfortunately, the Obama administration is asking to delay new sanctions following all the talk about historic, high-level meetings, and phone calls.

Mr. Speaker, now is not the time to be fooled by the rhetoric coming out of Tehran, especially as they push harder every day to develop a nuclear bomb. Before we even begin to discuss any deal with Tehran, we need to increase the pressure that has been working. It's time for the Senate to pass the House's new round of sanctions, which recently passed on this very floor with 400 votes.

Each day the Iranian regime is able to further drag out the promise of talks is another day that centrifuges will keep spinning. Once they're done spinning, they won't have any need to talk again.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

(Mr. VEASEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, we are now in day 9 of the Republican government shutdown.

Let's keep it real. Come on. This could end tonight if Republicans vote "yes" on a clean CR. The problem is that the Republicans only want to pass partisan bills with no attempts to reach across the aisle. Instead, Republicans are bringing bills up for votes that claim to fund the VA, feed children, and cure deadly diseases when, in fact, they actually reduce funding for these very important programs. The appeasement of the far right, the Tea Party, is the opposite of good gov-

erning and bipartisanship, and it needs to stop today.

As a freshman Member of Congress, I am disheartened by my Republican colleagues' inability to compromise for the benefit of the American people. It's not fair to the constituents that I represent in places like Grand Prairie, people who work at the old Carswell Air Force Base and the Naval Air Station Fort Worth who were recently furloughed as nonessential employees. It's unfair to punish the 62,000 Federal workers in the Dallas-Fort Worth area who have faced uncertain work status as a result of these partisan games.

I urge Republican leadership to stop the parlor tricks. Everything doesn't have to be a partisan battle. It is time for House Republicans to take "yes" for an answer and end the government shutdown today.

DEATH BENEFITS

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, last week before the shutdown, this House overwhelmingly passed legislation to provide for our military in case of a government shutdown. We voted to provide them not only pay, but benefits for themselves and their families. Now the President's lawyers at the Department of Defense are blocking death gratuities to the families of those who've made the ultimate sacrifice.

Families of soldiers killed in battle are being victimized by the Department of Defense. It's outrageous. Today, Congress will act again to make our wishes even more clear. The President is the Commander in Chief. He should not be using troops and their families as pawns in this political bickering. He should be doing everything he can to stand up for the men and women of our military. Instead, he is refusing to negotiate until he gets his way. He is violating the trust between himself as Commander in Chief and the troops and destroying their morale.

Divided government is hard, but it's what the people have given us. It requires negotiation and compromise. Let's provide for our troops and their families. Let's sit down and talk, and let's get the whole government reopened.

IN MEMORY OF NICHOLAS ORESKO, MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT

(Mr. SIREs asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in memory of Master Sergeant Nicholas Oresko, the oldest living Medal of Honor recipient and Bayonne, New Jersey, native, who passed away on October 4, 2013, at the age of 96.

In the final stages of World War II, on January 23, 1945, Master Sergeant